

In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A cigar and cigarette burn resistant gaming table cloth which resists decomposition by burn and char formation by a lit cigarette or cigar for at least three minutes during direct contact exposure to the lit end of the cigar or cigarette comprising a layer of fire retardant treated knit polyester fabric laminated to a thin sheet of aluminum, said aluminum having a thickness of about 1.5 mils, and said aluminum sheet laminated to a backing layer of non-woven synthetic fabric said aluminum acting as a heat sink and preventing decomposition by burn and char formation on the fabric for at least three minutes.

2. (original) A burn resistant gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 1 including intermediate layers of adhesive between the knit layer and said aluminum sheet and between said aluminum sheet and the non-woven fabric layer.

3. (currently amended) A burn resistant gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 2 including dyeing the composite, laminated fabric of said knit layer, the aluminum sheet layer and said non-woven fabric layer with a background color and imprinting said composite laminated fabric with gaming indicia.

4. (currently amended) A burn resistant gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 3 wherein said knit layer is cured with from the group consisting of one of a fire retardant chemical composition and an oil and water repellant chemical composition prior to lamination to said aluminum sheet layer.

5. (original) A burn resistant gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 3 wherein said knit layer is cured with a fire retardant and an oil and water repellant chemical composition prior to lamination to said aluminum sheet layer.

6. (original) A burn resistant gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 5 wherein said fire retardant and an oil and water repellant chemical composition is a phosphorus fluorocarbon.

7. (original) A gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 5 wherein said fire retardant and an oil and water repellant chemical composition is a non-ionic phosphorus fluorocarbon.

8. (original) A burn resistant gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 2 wherein said adhesive is a latex adhesive.

9. (original) A burn resistant gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 2 wherein said non-woven fabric is a polyester.

10. (original) A burn resistant gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 7 wherein said fire retardant and an oil and water repellant chemical composition is a phosphate ester- fluoropolymer.

11. (original) A laminated cigar and cigarette burn resistant gaming table cloth comprising a thin sheet of aluminum laminated with a latex adhesive between a layer of fire retardant treated knit polyester fabric and a backing layer of non-woven synthetic fabric.

12. (original) A burn resistant gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 11 wherein said knit fabric is also treated for water repellency.

13. (withdrawn) A method of manufacturing a cigar and cigarette burn resistant cloth for casino, gaming and billiard tables comprising:

treating a layer of knit polyester fabric with a fire retardant chemical and laminating a thin sheet of aluminum between said knit fabric layer and a layer of non-woven synthetic fabric.

14. (withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 13 including laminating said thin sheet of aluminum with a latex adhesive to both said knit layer and said non-woven fabric layer.

15. (withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 14 wherein said latex adhesive is a fire retardant latex adhesive.

16. (withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 15 including dyeing said knit fabric prior to lamination with said aluminum.

17. (withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 16 including treating said knit fabric with a water repellant prior to lamination with said aluminum.

18. (withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 17 wherein the step of treating said knit fabric includes treating said knit fabric with a phosphorus fluorocarbon composition which provides said knit layer with said fire retardant and water repellant treatment.

19. (currently amended) A cigar and cigarette burn resistant gaming table cloth which resists decomposition by burn and char formation by a lit cigarette or cigar for at least three minutes during direct contact exposure to the lit end of the cigar or cigarette comprising a layer of fire retardant treated knit polyester fabric laminated to a thin sheet of aluminum, and said aluminum sheet mounted to a backing layer of synthetic fabric, said aluminum acting as a heat sink and preventing decomposition by burn and char formation on the fabric for at least three minutes.

20. (currently amended) A burn resistant gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 19 wherein the mounting of said backing layer from the group consisting of is one of adherence, spray and needle punch mount.

21. (original) A burn resistant gaming table cloth as claimed in claim 20 wherein backing layer is a non-woven fabric.